

Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ERDA-05 OMB-01

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

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INFO USMISSION NATO

CNO WASHDC

CINCUSNAVEUR

COMSIXTHFLT

DIA WASHDC

JCS/NMCC

USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

USDOCOSOUTH

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: MPOL, PFOR, GR, US

SUB: U.S. NAVAL VISITS DISCUSSED IN GREEK PARLIAMENT

1. THE ISSUE OF U.S. NAVAL VESSELS VISITING GREEK PORTS CAME UP AGAIN IN PARLIAMENT ON JANUARY 20. DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER CONSTANTINE STAVROPOULOS, RESPONDING TO A QUESTION SUBMITTED EARLIER THIS MONTH BY COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE EXTERIOR (KKE-EXTERIOR) DEPUTY DIMITRIOS YONTIKAS, WAS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID THAT U.S. SHIPS VISIT GREEK PORTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH ESTABLISHED INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE IN TIME OF PEACE. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, HE ADDED THAT GREECE CANNOT CHANGE THIS PRACTICE AND NOTED THAT SHIPS OF MANY COUNTRIES ARE MOORED IN GREEK PORTS.

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2. ALTHOUGH SEVERAL U.S. NAVAL VESSELS VISITED PIRAEUS AND THE SOUTHWESTERN PORT OF KALAMATA OVER THE CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAYS, THEIR PRESENCE WENT ALMOST UNNOTICED BY GREEK NEWS MEDIA. THREE SMALL PROTEST MEETINGS WERE HELD IN KALAMATA DURING THE OVERLAPPING VISITS OF THE NUCLEAR-POWERED CRUISER CALIFORNIA AND THE DESTROYER SANSFIELD

(DECEMBER 17-JANUARY 4). BUT NONE WERE ORGANIZED IN PIRAEUS, WHERE LAST SUMMER PROTEST MEETINGS AND ABORTIVE MARCHES ON THE HARBOR WERE STANDARD ACCOMPANIMENTS TO SUCH SHIP VISITS.

3. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN THE GENERAL LACK OF PUBLIC INTEREST SHOWN TOWARD THE RECENT VISITS IS THE CONTINUED EXEMPLARY BEHAVIOR OF THE SHIPS' CREWS IN PORT. THERE HAVE BEEN NO SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS INVOLVING LIBERTY PARTIES. IN ADDITION, WHENEVER POSSIBLE THE SHIPS' COMPANIES HAVE EXTENDED HOSPITALITY TO GREEK CIVILIAN AND MILITARY OFFICIALS AND, IN THE CASE OF KALAMATA, ENTERTAINED GROUPS OF CHILDREN WITH A FAVORABLE LOCAL IMPACT.
KUBISCH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SHIPS, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE, MEETINGS, MILITARY VISITS
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 24-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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